

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00778 261259Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2342
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0778

COMMERCE FOR BOB BRADSHAW, BEWT

VIENNA FOR TRADE FAIR SUPPORT OFFICE AND AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, CZ
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HERBRICIDES/PESTICIDES TSS, MAY 30-JUNE 3, 1977

REF: (A) BRADHSAW/MONTGOMERY TELCON, MARCH 22, 1977,
(B) MOSCOW 3573, (C) 76 PRAGUE 2388 (NOTAL),
(C) 76 PRAGUE 2251

1. FIVE MINISTRIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAVE INTEREST IN
HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES: FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD, TWO NATIONAL (CZECH AND SLOVAK) MINISTRIES
OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, AND TWO NATIONAL MINISTRIES OF FORESTRY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES.

2. INQUIRIES SO FAR HAVE ELICITED AT BEST LUKEWARM RESPONSE
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FROM THOSE RESPONSIBLE. CZECH MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES INDICATED CASUAL INTEREST IN AREAS
DIRECTLY RELATED TO FORESTRY BUT IS NOT ANXIOUS TO
ASSIST IN ORGANIZING SEMINAR. FEDERAL MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD HAS NOT REPLIED AT ALL AND IS
UNFORTUNATELY AMONG LEAST COOPERATIVE OF CZECHO-
SLOVAK GOVERNMENTAL BODIES.

3. JUDGING FROM THESE RECENT SOUNDINGS EMBASSY STILL BELIEVES HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES IS NOT VIABLE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. AS NOTED LAST YEAR (REFS C AND D), HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES THEME FELL NEAR BOTTOM OF INTEREST LIST OF TSS SUBJECTS PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED FOR CSSR. IN ADDITION, SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WITH PLASTICS TSS (MAY 12 AND 13) AND INCHEBA TRADE FAIR BDO (JUNE 25 - JULY 1), BOTH IN BRATISLAVA, MAKE PROPOSED MAY 30 - JUNE 3 TIMING PARTICULARLY INOPPORTUNE.

4. INCIDENTALLY, EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT GOC DOES NOT ALLOW USE OF ANY CHLORINATED HYDROCARBONS, ORGANOPHOSPHATES OR CARBONATES AS INSECTICIDES. ALTHOUGH SHEEP (BUT NOT CATTLE) ARE DIPPED, GOC BELIEVES THERE IS NO PEST PROBLEM IN CSSR.

5. EMBASSY REGRETS WE ARE UNABLE TO ASSIST BY ACCEPTING TSS (REF A AND B) AT THIS LATE DATE. IT APPEARS FROM RECENT TRAFFIC IT MAY BE CANCELLED FOR NOW. IF HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES IS RESCHEDULED FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR, EMBASSY IS WILLING TO PURSUE SUBJECT FURTHER WITH RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO GREAT HOPES OF AROUSING MORE ENTHUSIASM THAN SEEN THUS FAR.
BYRNE

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